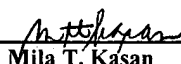


CERTIFICATION OF MAILING

| CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 | |
|--|--|
| Express Mail Number: <u>EL 897 621 483 US</u> | Date of Deposit: <u>October 24, 2001</u> |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. | |
|  Mila T. Kasan | |

#2A
PS**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventors: Lee et al.

Attorney Docket No. 4478D2

Serial No: not yet assigned

Art Unit:

Filed: concurrently herewith

Examiner:

Title: WATER-SOLUBLE RHODAMINE DYE CONJUGATES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit the Preliminary Amendment concurrently with this application.

I. AMENDMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please enter the following amendments to the above-identified patent application. No new matter has been added to the specification.

This is a preliminary amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) for a division of Application No. 09/661,206, filed on Sept. 14, 2000, now pending, which is a division of Application No. 09/433,093, filed on November 3, 1999, now US Patent No. 6,191,278, issued Feb. 20, 2001, all of which are incorporated herein by reference. This priority statement has been included on page 1 of the specification filed herein.

In the claims: